



UZBEKISTAN PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

United States Agency for International Development/Central Asia Region

http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/car/index.html

ENTERPRISE & FINANCE	Implementing Partners
<p>TRADE & INVESTMENT: USAID's Trade Facilitation & Investment Project (TFI) started its activity in April 2003, when it opened offices in Tashkent, Andijan, and Ferghana City. This project works with local SMEs and government to identify and eliminate burdensome regulations that slow business growth. It recently organized two roundtables which included public and private sector representatives from the three countries that share the Ferghana Valley in an effort to resolve some of the cross border trade issues that hamper business in the region. Also, USAID provided a WTO advisor to support the government's efforts to join the WTO. Additional support for WTO accession is given through technical advice on Metrology, Accreditation, and Standardization (MASQ). USAID is providing training and assistance to UZ Standard in order to bring accreditation and certification systems up to international standards.</p>	<p>Pragma Corporation</p>
<p>BUSINESS INFORMATION & SKILLS: In the increasingly controlled political environment of Uzbekistan, access to information and educational opportunities for university students is requisite for the development of a successful free market economy. USAID's Education Network (EdNet) provides teaching materials, training, research opportunities, and scholarships. Over 25,000 students in Uzbekistan have been exposed to modern economics and business education. Last year, EdNet provided 52 member universities with modern business and economics curricula, re-trained professors in business and economics and improved teaching methods; and provided research and equipment grants on a competitive basis, as well as textbooks, teaching materials and professional workshops. International professors delivered modern business and economics courses to university students, helped develop the economics and business departments of host institutions, and trained over 320 business and economics professors through the EdNet Academy. To demonstrate the value this assistance has for the GOU, the Minister of Higher and Secondary Special Education announced he would double the annual salary of all university faculty members who completed the Academy programs in either business management or economics.</p> <p>USAID's Enterprise Development Project (EDP) provides business and trade advisory services as well as business training to SMEs in Uzbekistan. In FY03, EDP assisted 148 SMEs in Tashkent and Ferghana City, which showed a 25% increase in sales and 26% growth in productivity. The EDP also facilitated 44 trade deals with a total value of over \$3.7 million. Last year, the EDP delivered more than 26,000 hours of business training to upgrade skills such as agrobusiness marketing, supply chain management, and other business competencies. USAID works with business and accounting associations in developing advocacy capabilities and member services through training and a competitive grant mechanism. USAID technical assistance and support for the Uzbek professional accounting and audit associations helped spur Uzbekistan's Ministry of Finance to launch a two-year transition program for implementation of a system based on International Accounting Standards (IAS). As of October 2003, USAID's accounting reform program certified 173 Certified Accounting Practitioners who will be able to apply international standards within Uzbek organizations.</p>	<p>Pragma Corporation, Carana Corporation, Winrock International, Junior Achievement</p>
<p>BANKING & FISCAL: USAID has begun economic policy programs to help the Uzbek government implement much-needed market reforms. Short-term technical assistance in key policy areas (e.g. foreign exchange policy, fiscal analysis and tax policy) will complement the World Bank's 'Public Finance Management Reform Project' and US Treasury resident assistance. USAID also supports economic policy think-tanks to strengthen their capacity to conduct high quality analysis to inform key policy decisions within the government and to stimulate greater public policy dialog. Technical support to the Central Bank of</p>	<p>Pragma Corporation Abt Associates</p>

Uzbekistan and to commercial banks helps implement bank accounting reform, particularly the adoption and implementation of International Accounting Standards (IAS).	
FINANCIAL MARKETS: USAID has several activities supporting entrepreneurs' access to capital, including microfinance, equity, debt, and leasing. USAID is also reviewing the current legal framework for microfinance in order to identify ways to improve it. Technical assistance to the Central Bank and commercial banks is improving financial transparency and bank accounting methods. USAID's program for microfinance institution (MFI) capacity building provides technical assistance, training, and development grants for MIS, accounting systems, computers, and additional lending capital. USAID also supports FINCA's MFI start-up program in Tashkent as well as Oz'Mard, an MFI in Andijan supported by ACDI/VOCA. Despite recent trade restrictions that led to Oz'Mard's temporary suspension of lending, some groups are already into their fourth loan, and members report increased sales and financial security as a result of their participation in the loan program. In collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, USAID also supports the development of credit unions in Uzbekistan. USAID is providing training and technical assistance to eight credit unions to ensure rapid start-up and sound operation. Sound, business-minded credit unions that are managed by their members have the potential to fulfill the role of market-oriented financial intermediaries in offering competitive deposit terms to the population, and attractive and hassle-free lending to businesses.	ACDI/VOCA, WOCCU, SEAF, IFC

WATER MANAGEMENT		Implementing Partners
WATER SECTOR: Uzbekistan consumes up to 65% of Central Asia's water resources, mostly for irrigation. As a major water consumer, Uzbekistan is a key link in efforts to improve water management on all levels in Central Asia, including increased cooperation on important transboundary rivers and streams. USAID's programs support Uzbekistan's efforts to improve the country's water management capabilities. Major components of the program are: training for technical personnel in water specialties and closely related weather and energy fields; installation of sustainable, cost-effective models that demonstrate new, more efficient technologies and management techniques for the water and related energy sectors; improving the policy and regulatory framework for management of water resources; and developing public commitment for improved water resources management and related issues. The GOU is now endorsing the formation of user groups in irrigated areas to form the basis for sustainable operation of the irrigation infrastructure. USAID is assisting the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources in this effort and is directly working with five water user groups in pilot regions across Uzbekistan. These serve as models for additional water user associations. Water User Associations manage canal and gate structures in their districts, and allocate water. These pilots are models for self-sustainable associations and USAID is providing technical assistance, affordable new technologies, and equipment to enable them to become operational, sustainable, more productive, and to assume responsibility for the management of water within their territory. USAID is also operating pilot projects for improved water district management in the two key agricultural areas served by the canals in the Surkhandarya and Zarafshan River Basins. These canals, as with many throughout the irrigation system, have fallen into disrepair since independence, and are in need of crucial improvements. The Surkhandarya Canal System, alone, is an enormous system, supplying vital irrigation water to 250,000 hectares through more than 1,000 miles of canals, to approximately 1 million farmers. USAID assistance consists of: specialized equipment to clean canals and maintain the existing distribution infrastructure; rehabilitation or provision of new water flow measurement equipment and infrastructure; equipment and associated training; and communications upgrades between key water dispatch centers. USAID's programs are improving the ability of water managers to ensure that water is delivered at the proper locations, with less waste, in the proper amounts, and at the appointed times. In addition to the preceding, USAID is assisting the GOU in upgrading and improving wider water communications networks, including the refurbishment and automation of key water control structures in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya river basins, to enable real-time decision making on water allocations (municipal, industrial, irrigation) and increase water conservation.		PA Consulting, Winrock International, Development Alternatives Inc., Riverside Technologies Inc., MASHAV, Meteor Communications Corporation

DEMOCRACY & CONFLICT MITIGATION

Implementing Partners

CIVIL SOCIETY: USAID/CAR's civil society program supports a network of eight civil society support centers that provide training seminars, technical support, information resources, networking opportunities and professional services to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and associations. USAID provides training and resources to strengthen the financial and institutional sustainability of these centers. The program includes funding to provide institutional grants for leading NGOs in specific sectors, community development grants to help NGOs to engage with their communities and advocate for their needs at the local level, and focusing on social partnerships and advocacy at the national level. USAID also provides assistance in the development of a comprehensive legal and fiscal framework that will support and strengthen the NGO sector, as well as direct legal support and services for NGOs through the CSSC Network. USAID's civic advocacy program trains and supports more active NGOs in their efforts to influence policymaking at the national level. Grants have been made to local NGO coalitions to undertake advocacy campaigns on handicapped accessibility, access to education for children with disabilities, and government regulations and decrees hindering the development of small and medium businesses. The program will fund additional campaigns in its second year.

IREX,
ICNL,
Counterpart

MEDIA & INFORMATION: USAID continues to promote democratic reforms by increasing the availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues. USAID's media program, which includes management and technical training for non-governmental television stations, is helping independent media outlets serve as an objective, effective public information tool. A full-time legal advisor provides legal consultation to non-governmental broadcast and print media outlets, ensuring that they are in compliance with the law. A print media advisor provides training and support to print journalists to upgrade the quality of reporting. A new regional effort will improve the media capacity to advocate for greater freedom of speech. With assistance from USAID and the U.S. Department of State, Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL), two human rights NGO resource centers opened in Tashkent and Namangan. A third resource center will open in 2004. These centers provide training, human rights information resources, meeting facilities, grants, and legal services. Also with joint funding with DRL, a human rights law clinic at Tashkent State Law Institute provides pro-bono legal advice on in-country residency restrictions issues, freedom of movement cases and government-sanctioned discrimination based on gender, origin, ethnicity, or language. Clinical students also receive instruction from human rights advocates and international scholars on a wide-range of human rights-related subjects. USAID recently initiated a new activity to combat trafficking in persons focused on public information and undertaking research to more fully understand the problem in Uzbekistan.

Internews,
ICFJ,
Adil Soz,
Freedom House,
ABA CEELI,
IOM

ACCOUNTABLE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS: Under the rubric of legal reform, USAID exposes law students, who represent future lawyers, judges and prosecutors, to democratic principles and practices. Law students from universities in the Ferghana Valley (including the cities of Andijan, Namangan and Ferghana) have formed a Student Bar Association Network. Another legal reform effort is training legal professionals, overhauling the curriculum at Tashkent State Law Institute, conducting continuing legal education for advocates, and training law students on oral and written advocacy. To bolster rule of law in Uzbekistan, USAID recently began implementing a judicial reform program to train judges, disseminate legal information, and institute a court administration program. Through its local government program, USAID is providing technical assistance, training and grants to housing associations, NGOs advocating for housing reform, and local governments to provide a better living conditions for Uzbek citizens.

ABA/CEELI,
IRIS,
The Urban Institute

CONFLICT MITIGATION: Community development programs, targeted where risks of communal conflict or the lure of extremist groups are greatest, are designed to increase citizen participation in community decision-making and local government, and contribute to mitigating sources of conflict by promoting economic recovery and inter-ethnic cooperation. USAID initiated two community based peace-building initiatives in FY 2002. The Peaceful Communities Initiative (PCI) began activities in 18 communities across the Ferghana Valley, including mobilization training and a number of small infrastructure projects (school roof repair, natural gas pipelines, and a drinking water system). To build on these efforts, the Community Action Investment Program (CAIP) was initiated in southern Uzbekistan and the Ferghana Valley. Conflict mitigation activities are now operational, establishing community initiative groups, conducting training modules, and reviewing community-driven

Mercy Corps,
Counterpart International,
CHF

proposals for confidence-building infrastructure projects such as school repairs, water and heating systems, and natural gas pipelines. Conflict prevention programs are active in 86 communities, with an approximate beneficiary base of 276,000 in the southern Uzbek oblasts (states) of Kashkadaryo and Surkhandaryo, as well as in the Ferghana Valley oblasts of Namangan, Ferghana, and Andijan, including some cross-border communities where tensions run high. By the spring of 2005, we expect to see approximately 110 such communities in Uzbekistan's Ferghana Valley, and in Surkhandaryo and Kashkadaryo Oblasts, with at least 471,000 direct beneficiaries of the small-scale, community-driven social and physical infrastructure projects generated through community action. More importantly, though, we expect that the ties developed through the community strengthening component of this activity will build the capacity for communities to deal with local conflicts on their own before they become dangerous. We are working closely with our partners to address issues of unemployment (particularly among urban youth), human rights, and cultural awareness.

HEALTH & EDUCATION

Implementing
Partners

QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: USAID's health reform programs, conducted in close collaboration with the government and The World Bank are expanding rapidly, as the government seeks to improve access to and quality of rural primary health care (PHC) nationwide. Rural primary health care reform is now in progress in seven oblasts: Andijan, Ferghana, Karakalpakstan, Khorezm, Navoiy, Sirdaryo and Surkhandaryo. Per capita payment systems are being introduced and primary health care facilities are becoming legally independent entities, responsible for managing their own programs and budgets. The USAID-assisted management training for primary health care facilities is being institutionalized to assure sustainability. The Ministry of Health has recently approved the first urban primary health care model, which will be piloted starting in 2004, and the introduction of a new HIS system for hospitals on a pilot basis is expected to pave the way for hospital payment reforms.

USAID works closely with The World Bank and Department for International Development (DFID) to retrain primary health care doctors as general practitioners (GPs), including reproductive health, care of pregnant women, anemia, rational nutrition, Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, hypertension and other topic. Midwives in rural areas are expanding their roles to provide family planning services. And nurses in Ferghana Oblast have been given nurses bags and trained to conduct basic health checks, follow-up care for minor illnesses and health education in the course of routine home visits. Quality improvement pilots in hypertensive care, anemia in women, and IMCI are beginning to highlight some of the systems obstacles to updating Soviet practices in line with evidence-based, international approaches. An Evidence-Based Medicine Center has now been established in the Post-Graduate Institute and a Drug Information Center is active in Ferghana Oblast. Studies have been conducted to shed light on needed policy-changes in the pharmaceutical arena and are informing policy discussions.

USAID promotes healthy behaviors with high profile multi-media campaigns on a range of maternal and child health topics, with the development of health education materials and training of PHC staff on health promotion. A new community small grants program has provided financial support for 13 NGOs to implement community health projects. CDC is implementing a pilot program to introduce the internationally-accepted WHO-definition of infant mortality. This involves policy change at the national level, training of perinatologists, obstetricians, and pediatricians, and provision of equipment to assist in resuscitation and measurement of newborns.

Abt Associates,
Counterpart Consortium

MOTHER & CHILD HEALTH: USAID is working with local health authorities and communities to increase family information about appropriate care, to better prepare health care staff in up-to-date approaches to treatment of common but potentially life-threatening illnesses and to change national regulations on care of diarrhea and acute respiratory infections (ARI). In Uzbekistan, children still die of diarrhea and pneumonia and are often hospitalized due to the fact that they sought medical care too late. Resources are wasted because regulations sometimes mandate hospitalization unnecessarily and physicians incorrectly prescribe antibiotics for viral infections. Following last year's campaigns on care of children with ARI and on treating and preventing diarrhea, education efforts continue at the clinic level. The 1996 Uzbekistan Demographic and Health

Project HOPE,
Abt Associates,
MACRO International

<p>Survey revealed that 78% of women and children tested in the Ferghana region had at least some degree of anemia. As a result, USAID mounted an extensive campaign, introducing the first soap opera episodes in 2001, to improve people's knowledge about anemia prevention. Since then health promotion campaigns, each one featuring new episodes of the soap opera, have been conducted on ARIs, diarrhea and hygiene, family planning and a new campaign on breastfeeding is forthcoming. This acclaimed soap opera series is currently being shown nationwide at the request of the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>USAID has started a new five-year program in Kashkadaryo and Surkhandaryo Oblasts (states) to expand and strengthen maternal and child health and reproductive health through improvements in service delivery and community mobilization activities. USAID is training health staff to better manage obstetric, pre-natal and reproductive health care and is extending training on management of common but serious childhood illnesses. Community activities will strengthen and mobilize community organizations to inform and advocate for safe motherhood, reproductive and child health initiatives. Children from grades 1-8 will be better educated on health through curriculum and lesson plans developed by USAID with close cooperation from local counterparts. The curriculum was piloted in several schools and the interactive approach proved so popular with students that other teachers are requesting training on this teaching method. The health curriculum is being extended throughout Ferghana Oblast and has been adopted by the Ministry of Education as its national health education curriculum. USAID's cross-border soccer and volleyball competitions among youth promote cooperation between different ethnic communities, undermine myths and rumors, and build self-esteem for young people. Anti-drug and healthy lifestyle messages are part of game days with more extensive health education efforts to be developed during the next year.</p> <p>Like all countries in Central Asia, Uzbekistan is coping with dual problems of increasing deaths from chronic illness, such as cardiovascular disease, as well as continued problems with infectious disease. USAID has completed a Health Examination Survey to collect information on the health status of women and children. In addition, data on men and women's awareness of hypertension and diabetes, risk factors and treatment, have been collected, as well as testing of cholesterol and other blood fats. The preliminary results have recently been released.</p>	
<p>INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL: The tuberculosis (TB) situation in Uzbekistan is very serious. Since 1995, the TB case notification rate has almost doubled (from 43.2 per 100,000 populations in 1995 to 72.4 in 2001.) The mortality rate has also risen (from 8.6 deaths per 100,000 populations in 1995 to 12.5 deaths in 2002). Since 2000, USAID has been working with Uzbekistan's Ministry of Health on implementing the World Health Organization (WHO)-recommended Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (DOTS) strategy to treat TB. Starting with five sites, this effort has expanded to 10 sites throughout Uzbekistan. In cooperation with the national TB Institute, National DOTS Center and Medical Universities, Project HOPE trained 2,306 health providers to date, including 643 TB physicians, 1,386 primary care physicians, 167 nurses, and 110 laboratory specialists in close cooperation with CDC. Project HOPE held five conferences, co-sponsored three conferences/workshops in Uzbekistan, and organized study tours and trips to international conferences for health care leaders of the country. In 2000 - 2001, Project HOPE provided TB Dispensaries in pilot sites with office equipment, laboratory equipment and reagents. Additional equipment was delivered to the Central TB laboratory in Tashkent as part of the program in June 2000, for the establishment of the National Laboratory Training Center (NLTC). In addition, TB drugs were provided for treatment of 1,750 patients in 2000-2001. Also, 20,000 brochures (in collaboration with Abt Associates, Inc.) and 8,000 DOTS posters were printed and distributed. In 2002, an Internet library has been established at the NLTC. It became an essential part of the day-to-day life of the medical workers of the TNTRI and DOTS Center. CDC is responsible for the quality assurance of TB laboratories in the pilot sites and for laboratory staff training. CDC in close collaboration with Project HOPE trained 222 TB laboratory specialists during the period of 2000 - June 2003. USAID, CDC and Project HOPE are setting up a Training Center at the National Research Institute of TB and Pulmonary Diseases with a team of trained trainers affiliated with a postgraduate institute. CDC plans to develop and begin implementation of its TB Electronic Surveillance Case-Based Management (ESCM) program within the coming year (2003-2004), building on experience elsewhere in the region. In 2002, the USAID-supported Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) started a new program to assure the quality of anti-TB drugs and to develop appropriate drug management practices in Uzbekistan. RPM Plus conducted trainings and provided technical assistance to address the general aspects of drug management issues at a national level. RPM Plus plans to conduct and assessment of TB treatment practices in the country. The study will focus on rational drug use,</p>	<p>CDC, Project HOPE, Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus)</p>

<p>resource utilization and treatment outcomes in DOTS versus non-DOTS areas. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is establishing a regional training program on blood safety that will equip 19 serology labs, located in Tashkent and in each oblast. USAID is responding to the growing malaria threat through a regional approach to malaria control. Two Uzbek health professionals are participating in the two-year Applied Epidemiology program at the Kazakhstan School of Public Health.</p>	
<p>HIV/AIDS CONTROL & PREVENTION: By global standards, HIV prevalence remains relatively low with the epidemic concentrated among injecting drug users. By August 2003, Uzbekistan reported 3213 HIV positive cases but the true figure is estimated as 10 times higher. Yet, there is potential for an uncontrolled and widespread HIV/AIDS epidemic as in Russia and the Ukraine. Because a reliable information system for data collection on the level of disease and the extent of behavioral risk factors within high-risk populations is critical to prevention and control, USAID and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are helping establish four sentinel surveillance sites in Tashkent, Termez, Andijon and Samarkand, where the largest HIV-positive populations are currently found. USAID and CDC have trained experts to gather and analyze this data. To learn about behavioral risk factors, USAID is implementing studies in Tashkent to better focus AIDS prevention programs in areas with high probability of HIV transmission such as bars, restaurants, and parks.</p> <p>Containing HIV will require various approaches, including peer and outreach education activities that support behavior change among high-risk groups. USAID has awarded four grants to HIV/AIDS NGOs that work on prevention among high-risk groups, including prisoners. The NGOs' efforts will help establish new healthy behavior norms based on personal responsibility for individual health. Each project offers basic medical care, free condoms, referrals to social workers, legal services, and access to STI clinics and HIV testing sites. Condom social marketing promotes the benefits of sexual abstinence, importance of being faithful to one partner, and the value of condom use. The educational component includes school-based peer education on HIV/AIDS and STIs. Because the HIV epidemic in Central Asia is fueled by injecting drug use, USAID is also supporting efforts to reduce demand for illegal drugs by promoting effective and sustained countrywide drug prevention policies and by supporting local organizations that work with vulnerable populations including youth, sex workers, prisoners, and migrants/displaced persons/refugees.</p>	<p>CDC, PSI, Soros, University of North Carolina</p>
<p>HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS: Uzbekistan's health managers are benefiting from a new partnership with the University of Kentucky to develop health management education at several Uzbek medical institutions. PHC nurses educated through a nursing partnership are being afforded a new respect and recognition by clients and physicians. The Israel-based training provides nurses with up-to-date information and builds their skills in home visit care and community health nursing. Nurses' newly developed health promotion role includes work with pregnant women, monitoring children's development, and hypertension diagnosis. The Yazyavan Rayon Chief Nurse reports that nurses are working with one-third of the rayon's hypertension patients to check their blood pressure, provide needed health education and assist them in managing their chronic disease.</p>	<p>AIHA, MASHAV</p>
<p>BASIC EDUCATION: The Basic Education Sector Strengthening Program (BESSP) began activities in January 2003 focusing on five major aspects of the education system: in-service teacher training, classroom-level learning materials development and textbook development, parent and community involvement in the education decision making, management and technical capacity at all levels of the education system; and rehabilitation of school infrastructure. The program will also facilitate policy dialogue on education finance through a finance working group which will propose solutions and implement pilots to solve larger education finance issues. During this first stage of the program, 7 pilot schools were selected as pilot sites of BESSP. Training of trainer activities commenced at pilot schools during the summer of 2003, promoting modern teaching methodologies, such as Step-by-Step and Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking to 620 teachers of primary and secondary grades. Two initial Community Education Committees (CEC) were established around pilot schools in order to build partnerships between the school and the community. 34 school administrators and education authorities attended the first USAID training sessions on effective school management and strategic planning. Capacity building at different levels of the system will develop support for the expansion of successful pilot activities to other areas in the future. Beginning 2004, the</p>	<p>AED</p>

pilot schools will serve as training and resource hubs for clusters of surrounding schools, thereby expanding the outreach and impact of the USAID Basic Education Program.	
Responding to a special request from the Uzbek government, supplemental funds enabled a donation of 1,028 computer desktop sets to improve students' access to computers in primary schools. The computers were placed in over 100 selected schools across the country and approximately half of the schools also were connected to the internet. In addition to the computer installation, all of the schools receive training in maintenance as well as on basic integration of technology into the academic process.	IREX

SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES	Implementing Partners
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EURASIA FOUNDATION: Eurasia grants help implement USAID's objectives and complement programs in the economic and democracy sector. Eurasia Foundation awarded 38 grants to Uzbekistani NGOs in FY 2003, with an average grant size of nearly \$18,000. More than half of these grant funds supported private enterprise development, with the remainder targeting improvements in the areas of civil society. Through the Ferghana Valley Initiative, aimed at forging cross-border connections in this politically sensitive region, Eurasia awarded six grants in the areas of mass media development, cross-border trade, and legal and civil rights defense in FY 2003. Eurasia helped create the three-country television network "Voices of the Ferghana Valley" to foster mutual understanding across the valley. As a result of which, the Uzbekistani partner studio "Mulokot" produced 17 new programs.	Eurasia Foundation
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PARTICIPANT TRAINING & EXCHANGES: In FY 2003, USAID trained over 1,400 Uzbekistani citizens (approximately 44% of whom were women) with an emphasis on the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises, fostering an independent mass media, international accounting standards, democratic development and improved primary health care. Participants represent a broad cross section of society, from government ministers, to heads of businesses and NGO leaders, to individual citizens committed to reform in their area of expertise. An important aspect of training is its regional nature, which allows colleagues across borders to share lessons learned and, where relevant, to develop cooperative solutions to common problems. Training also supports and complements USAID's crosscutting objectives of youth and education, rule of law and anticorruption, reduced gender bias, and conflict prevention. In FY 2004, the participant training program will initiate a series of pilot training programs targeting the agricultural sector. The training will be supported and complimented by a number of activities to be conducted by existing implementing partners and the Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources.	AED
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Glossary of Acronyms:

ABA/CEELI: American Bar Association/Central and East European Law Initiative
ACDI/VOCA: Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance
AED: Academy for Educational Development
AIHA: American International Health Alliance
CDC: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CHF: Community Habitat Finance

HOPE: Health Opportunity for People Everywhere
IFC: International Finance Corporation
ICFJ: International Center for Journalists
ICNL: International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
PSI: Population Services International
SEAF: Small Enterprise Assistance Fund
WOCCU: World Council of Credit Unions

USAID assistance to Central Asia helps increase opportunities to improve citizens' knowledge, livelihoods, participation and dialogue in social, economic and political life.

To learn more, please visit our website at: http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/car/index.html

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